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## Kabul Times (April 1, 1969, vol. 8, no. 10)

Bakhtar News Agency

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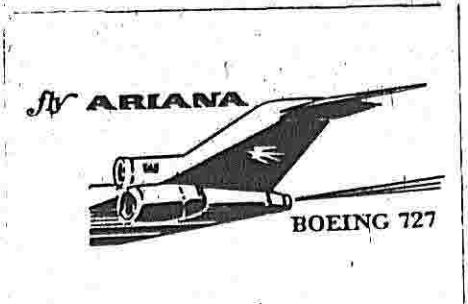




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# THE KABUL TIMES



VOL. VIII, NO. 10

KABUL, TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1969 (HAMAL 12; 1348 S.H.)

PRICE AF. 4

## AFGHAN FRUIT CO. GARNERS \$ 470,000 FROM RAISIN SALES

KABUL, April 1. (Bakhtar).—More than \$470,000 have been earned from the sale of Afghan raisins in the foreign markets during the past Afghan year (March 21, 1968—March 21, 1969). This is the largest sale of raisins ever recorded in Afghanistan.

In disclosing this, a source of the Fruit Export Company said that during the past Afghan year 17000 tons of raisins have been exported to foreign markets. Out of this, 1000 tons were exported to England, West Germany and Japan and the rest to the Soviet Union, a barter trade area.

### Eisenhower to be buried in boyhood home

WASHINGTON, April 1. (Reuters).—Dwight D. Eisenhower's body left Washington Monday on the journey back to its final resting-place at his boyhood home, the windswept prairie town of Abilene, Kansas.

National leaders and dignitaries from some 40 foreign states attended a combined Presbyterian-episcopalian funeral service in Washington national cathedral, shortly before the body of the late 34th president of the United States was put aboard a train for the 30-hour, 2,100 kilometre journey.

Thousands of ordinary Americans filed in a night-long stream slowly past general Eisenhower's flag-draped, metal casket, as it lay in state atop a black catafalque first used for the assassinated President Lincoln 104 years ago.

The coffin lay directly below the dome of the capitol building, home of the U.S. Congress, where President Nixon praised his predecessor and former boss Sunday as an "authentic hero" of war and peace.

The coffin was carried to the capitol Sunday on a horse-drawn gun-carriage, under a sky which started grey and sleet-laden, but brightened to blue by the end of the 90-minute procession.

On its arrival, President Nixon delivered a resounding eulogy to the dead warrior-president, whom he called "truly the first citizen of the world".

And, in disclosing General Eisenhower's last words to his wife, Mamie, Nixon offered them to the world as an epitaph for the man millions knew simply as "Ike".

### India denies arms to Viet. go via her

NEW DELHI, April 1. (AFP).—Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh told parliament yesterday that India had not authorised Soviet flights carrying military equipment to North Vietnam.

Singh was replying to the leader of the militant Hindu Jan Sangh Party, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who quoted Budapest radio as saying Soviet military supplies to Hanoi were being routed through India, following the recent Sino-Soviet border clashes and a reported Chinese refusal to permit the supplies to be sent via China.

The foreign minister said no arms carrying flights had been allowed over India, though there was no way of knowing whether such flights might take place in these days of fast-flying aircraft which did not need to be refuelled en route.

However, Singh said that only civilian aircraft flew to Hanoi and back with the clearance of the Indian government, and each of them was checked at Calcutta, where they stopped over. These aircraft carried passengers, baggage, mail and cargo, but no military equipment.

Meanwhile, deputy foreign minister Surendrapal Singh told Communist Deputy Bhupesh Gupta that the American Embassy here has claimed immunity under international diplomatic practice against a demand that they present embassy documents in Delhi, magistrate's court.

The magistrate, who is trying to defame a case against a communist newspaper, had summoned the embassy to produce specimens of the handwriting and signature of former U.S. central intelligence agency John Smith, who is now working for the Soviet Union.

Smith, who worked in the embassy from 1954 to 1959, implicated in recent "disclosures" a retired Indian army brigadier Sen, who filed a suit against the communist paper for reproducing Smith's statement.

### Senate discusses budget balance

KABUL, April 1. (Bakhtar).—Various committees of the Senate met yesterday. The Financial and Budgetary Affairs Committee, presided over by Senator Mohammad Yakoub Samangani, discussed the overall balance in the national budget for the current Afghan year.

The president of planning Mohammad Khan appeared before the International Affairs Committee and answered the questions on the agreement between Afghanistan and the United States on the purchase of 20,000 tons of wheat and 400-tons of edible oil.

The Petitions Committee presided over by Senator Abdul Ghani Baghlan considered some petitions and sent its decisions to the secretariat of the Senate. The Legal and Legislative Committee presided over by Senator M. A. Ghogiani also met.

### Nasser warns Egypt of new round with Israel

CAIRO, April 1. (Reuters).—Egyptians yesterday studied a new blueprint for social and economic change, amidst warnings from President Nasser that another battle with Israel may yet come.

The national congress of the Arab Socialist Union ended its first anniversary session of President Nasser's March 30 reform programme by approving a detailed list of priorities on the military and home fronts.

It declared Sunday night that Egypt must still be ready to face a possible new round of hostilities with Israel, should big power efforts to solve the Middle East crisis fail.

President Nasser said the army stood prepared.

The congress meanwhile has approved social and industrial measures reaching to almost every facet of national life.

Drawn up by 20 committees, these

### Attasi picked to lead new Syrian govt.

DAMASCUS, April 1. (AFP).—Syria's ruling Baath Party ended an 11-day congress here Monday night with the appointment of a new cabinet under head-of-state and government Dr. Nureddine Attasi, radio Damascus announced.

Quoting authoritative sources, the radio gave the full list of the new 16-member party directorate.

Observers here commented that it looked more like a minor cabinet reshuffle at first sight.

Only three changes to the outgoing cabinet were announced.

Baath Party members replaced Syrian security police chief Colonel Abdel Kerim el Jundi, who committed suicide at the outset of the February 23 crisis; Foreign Minister, Mohammad Eid Achawi, and Abdel Neasse, regional governor of Rakka, northern Syria.

The real significance of the decisions was that they revealed that events during the congress had brought victory to the faction led by Dr. Attasi, Baath Party secretary-general, and right-hand man Salah Iddid, deputy secretary-general, over the supporters of defence minister General Hafez Assad, observers felt.

The defence minister however retains his post, they noted.

Observers recalled that Dr. Attasi had twice offered to resign and even gave up going to his office after the recent crisis. His re-appointment as head of government accordingly represents a new and significant decision.

It would seem to show that the party's "fourth extraordinary regional congress" enabled the two major groups to reach a compromise.

For the moment, observers refrained from further comment pending publication of a full Baath Party communiqué announcing resolutions and recommendations approved during the congress.

Radio Damascus gave the names of the three new government members as: Moustafa Rustum, a Damascus school director, Ahmed Sheikh Kasseem and Anis Kinjo.

### Torrential rains destroy 213 homes in Mazar Villages

MAZARE SHARIF, April 1. (Bakhtar).—Two hundred and thirteen houses in Sultan Baba Ali Shir, Nahr Shahi district of Balkh province have collapsed due to torrential rains. One village school and two mosques also collapsed.

No human losses have been reported. Most of the belongings of the homes were shifted to the next village when the houses began to slowly give way. Two hundred families make up the village population of one thousand.

The Afghan Red Crescent Society has rushed medical and material aid to the victims. Eng. Mohammad Bashir Lodin, the Governor of Balkh inspected the affected area yesterday and expressed the good will of the Red Crescent Society for helping them. Medicine was distributed to the victims. A team of officials was appointed to supervise the distribution of aid to the victims.

The Afghan Red Crescent aid team is headed by Habibul Rahman Rahmani, the director of the Publicity Department in the society. The ministries of National Defence and Public Health are aiding in the transport and medical supplies.

### Los Angeles may get U.S.'s 3rd black mayor

LOS ANGELES, April 1. (Reuters).—A Negro may be elected mayor of Los Angeles, the third largest city in the United States, when one million voters went to the polls here today.

Thomas Bradley, a city councillor and former police lieutenant, is favoured by some polls to win in a race in which 14 candidates are taking part. Only three others are considered to have any chance.

A victory for him in this city of nearly three million people—20 per cent of them Negroes—would be one of the most significant political advances for American Negroes yet. Black mayors were recently elected in Cleveland, Ohio (population 879,000) and Gary, Indiana, (178,000).

Bradley's chief opponent is the incumbent mayor, Sam Yorty, who sprang into nation-wide prominence last year as spokesman for the city during and after the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy.

Yorty was considered a virtual certainty to win until a poll have days ago showed Bradley well ahead with 31 per cent of the vote and Yorty second with only 21 per cent.

Although only a fifth of the population of L.A. are Negroes, white liberals including film star Burt Lancaster, have rallied to Bradley's cause.

He also counts on getting the support of the city's large Mexican-American population. If no candidate gets a majority a run-off will be held between the two leading candidates on May 27.

### Viet Cong gunners kill 6 U.S. soldiers, wound 37

SAIGON, April 1. (Reuters).—Viet Cong gunners killed six American soldiers and wounded 37 when they attacked U.S. position in the central highlands last night.

The guerrillas followed up a heavy mortar bombardment with a ground attack, a U.S. spokesman said.

He said fighting in the area started yesterday afternoon, 25 miles west of Kontum city near the Laotian border, when American infantry exchanged fire for two hours with a guerrilla force of unknown size.

The Americans took up defensive positions after dark, and shortly before midnight were hit with the U.S. positions, the spokesman said.

When fighting ended just before dawn 25 Viet Cong bodies were found in the area, the spokesman added.

American infantry yesterday found a large weapons cache near Khe Sanh, in northernmost Quang Tri province which includes 300 Chinese made gas masks.

The spokesman said a total of 10 tons of weapons and ammunition were uncovered in the cache.

An American helicopter was shot down in Quang Nam province by ground fire 40 miles south of the big military base at Da Nang, the spokesman announced in a delayed report. It was the eleventh American helicopter shot down in five days.

South Vietnamese troops uncovered two weapons caches yesterday, one in Binh Duong province, 35 miles north of Saigon, and the other in Hau Nghia province near Duc Hoa, 35 miles west of the capital.

The caches contained a large quantity of mortars, mines, ammunition and rice. The dump in Hau Nghia province included two anti-aircraft machine guns and 11 Russian made rifles.

### Wilson still trying to meet Biafran leader Col. Ojukwu

LONDON, April 1. (AFP).—British Premier Harold Wilson is continuing to try and arrange a meeting with Biafran leader Odumegwu Ojukwu in spite of a radio report that Col. Ojukwu has turned down the invitation, a government spokesman announced here.

He added that "Wilson, up to now, has not received any reply from Col. Ojukwu himself".

"He has then sent a further message to Col. Ojukwu last night reminding him that his representative in London had said that while Col. Ojukwu would prefer the end of the week, Wednesday, April 2, would be possible for him, the spokesman said.

Wilson arrived in Addis Ababa Monday after a five-day visit to for a speedy reply".

### Series of earthquakes shake Cairo, Jerusalem, other areas

CAIRO, April 1. (Reuters).—A series of earthquakes shook the capitals of Egypt and Israel, as well as other Middle East towns, yesterday, 48 hours after 23 people died and 160 hurt when a mud-walled Ethiopian town was flattened by a tremor.

In Cairo, hotels, apartments and office buildings swayed slightly as a 15-second shock hit the city and in Tel Aviv, people ran to air-raid shelters for cover.

The quake hit Israel at 0717 GMT. It was reported to be particularly strong at Bet Shemesh, near Jerusalem, and was felt as far away as the Red Sea port of Eilat, some 208 km south of the holy city.

In Sieli, people ran from villages and farms on the eastern slopes of mount Etna or drove to the coast when a tremor shook the area.

In Serdo, about 450 kms north-east of Addis Ababa, 300 people were left homeless after Saturday's earthquake.

A day earlier on Friday, 53 people died and 350 were injured in the Alasehir-area of western Turkey, when an earthquake reduced 2,000 houses to rubble.

A severe tremor also destroyed about 20 homes in a village near Herowabad (Khalkhal), north Iran, on Saturday night.

Hundreds of people dashed into the streets when the 15-second earthquake tremor shook Cairo.

One house collapsed, three others were damaged and five people were taken to the hospital with injuries.

The 15-second tremor set hotels, apartment buildings and office blocks swaying, but the only damage reported so far was to ramshackle houses in the old quarters of the city.

Officials of the seismographic department, said the epicentre of the tremor was in the desert region 220 kms southeast of Cairo.

### Yahya assumes powers of president

RAWALPINDI, April 1. (AFP).—Pakistan's new strongman General Yahya Khan last night assumed the powers of president of the republic in a move to strengthen his hold on the crisis-hit country.

An official statement said that General Yahya assumed the presidency in order to better discharge his duties.

The office became vacant on March 25 when Field Marshal Ayub Khan, yielding to a wave of mob violence, resigned and handed over control of the country to the army. He named General Yahya chief martial law administrator.

General Yahya's special proclamation announcing his assumption of the presidential powers said: "For the performance of essential acts of state that the chief martial law administrator in his capacity as

head of state and administration is required to perform, it is necessary that he should have the designation which enables him to discharge these responsibilities within the framework of the country's laws and in accordance with the requirements of international practice and usage."

Meanwhile complete calm appeared to prevail in East Pakistan following the month-long period of mob rule. There was no outward sign of fear in Dacca where, a few weeks ago, a minor official was crucified on suspicion of corruption, another lynched and a third cut to pieces.

A Reuters report said students in West Pakistan returned to their classes yesterday after a forced recess of five months during which they spearheaded the movement against the regime of ex-president Ayub Khan. School, college and university campuses, which had been dead, hummed with life again.

The government closed educational institutions in some parts of the province in late October and the rest early in November when the agitation against President Ayub took a violent turn following the death of a student in Rawalpindi in a clash with police.

General Yahya Khan, the army commander, who assumed the office of president of Pakistan ordered the reopening of the schools and promised to respect to students genuine grievances along with those of workers and peasants.

Schools began re-opening in East Pakistan last Wednesday but the resumption in the west was delayed because of the Muslim Moharram holiday.

### Self-government promised for Anguilla: BBC

LONDON, April 1. (AFP).—Anguilla is to obtain "an advanced degree of self-government" under an interim agreement, the British Broadcasting Corporation reported yesterday, quoting Lord Caradon, Britain's UN delegate who arrived in the island last week. It also said the British paratroops who landed on March 19 would leave again very shortly.

The island would continue to be administered for the time being by Anthony Lee, commissioner representing the British government, who would cooperate with a consultative council of seven locally-elected persons.

The island would not return to the tutelage of St. Kitts, which it seceded from in 1967. Ronald Webster, self-styled "president" of Anguilla, agreed to the 50 British policemen remaining on the island.

He described the new interim agreement as "a happy day for Anguilla," the BBC reported.





## THE KABUL TIMES

Published every day except Friday and Afghan public holiday by the Kabul Times Publishing Agency.

### Growing raisin exports

The Kabul Times is carrying on its front page a news item about the increased export of raisins and the unprecedented amount of foreign exchange obtained from this source. The credit for this achievement goes to the Fruit Export Company, which for the first time introduced the idea of cleaning, sorting and packing raisins in accordance with international standards.

Previously Afghan raisins used to be exported in a very crude form. Huge sacks were used to pack uncleaned raisins which could not possibly attract many customers. This has been radically changed now. The company has installed modern machinery for cleaning and packing raisins. Due to sub-standard marketing it has not been possible for Afghan raisins to make headway in American and European markets.

The activity of the Ministry of Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce and the improved marketing practices has now made it possible for the Afghan raisin to be in good demand in the European and Japanese markets. According to the company sources the demand in these markets for our raisins is continually growing and that is why this year the commodity was sold for much better prices.

This healthy situation should provide a challenge both for the producers as well as for the government and the private sector to see how we can further promote raisin exports. First of all it is obvious that in order to export more we have

### Food For Thought

Criticism comes easier than craftsmanship.

Phy

### Forecasts

## A blueprint for France in 1985

In fifteen years, at a time when a new generation will be joining the working population, France will number nearly 60 million inhabitants. The urban population will have doubled, at the cost of the rural population, and the problems of space, air, water, traffic, training, etc. will be in the forefront of general preoccupations. In addition, by 1985, personal consumption will be 2.5 times greater in relation to 1960.

If, in fifteen years' time, the French want to enjoy an environment adapted to man, they must prepare the way now. The France of 1985 will be as the men of 1964 will have constructed it.

Why 1985? First of all, because this limited period of time makes it possible to work out in a comparatively reasonable way the effects of the changes which will occur in the next few years. In addition, it is also plausible to appraise with a certain realism methods, fashions, and structures quite different from those of today.

But, above all, a period of 20 years corresponds to the moment when a new generation will join the working population.

Between now and 1985, the French people's standard of living may rise as much again as it has done in a century.

This projection must take into account the new needs engendered by growth, in particular the investments in the field of education (the betterment of men) and the development of the territory (the organisation of space).

The progress of science and technology is likely to modify the values of day-to-day life profoundly. New possibilities (to travel far, to travel quickly, to produce ever more new goods, to have a great deal of spare time, to know more with greater assurance) are multiplying: at the end of the century, the industrial age will be succeeded by the scientific

age. The discoveries in the field of genetics and in that of biology and, again, the solutions contributed to the medical problems of the adult will mean a considerable increase in longevity.

In the 20 coming years, from now until 1985, facts are going to intervene and make still more necessary a change in the environment of every French person.

—The agricultural world will decrease in relative and in absolute value, and its mode of life will be less different from the town mode of life than it is today.

—The urban world will grow until it forms four-fifths of the population: small or big, the towns of France will, on average, almost double in population between now and 1985.

—The motor car is going to play an ever increasing part, disrupting a traditional form of life, and creating new forms of relations: between now and 1985, its numbers will have trebled, reaching 20 million.

—The desire for space in all environments—home, factory, office, educational institutions, places of recreation—will have become more urgent.

These forecasts conjure up the picture of twice as many crowds, three times as much traffic congestion, four times more in the way of suburbs. Other important alterations are to be anticipated: conditions of work, family life, and social relations.

Thus, it is biologically possible to suppose that a greater number of men will be engaged in productive and regular activities for a longer period. This ability makes it possible to carry out a certain improvement in present conditions of existence: raising of professional qualification with extension of compulsory schooling, reduction in working hours, harmonisation between work and family life.

In this last sphere, men and women will tend to have an identical position. The family will be different from what it is today: more especially, the education of the children will, to a greater extent, come under outside influences: educational centres, youth movements, etc.

In 1985, of 100 French people aged 17 nearly 100 will go to school, as against 28 in 1960 and probably 42 in 1970.

More than ever, education will have to be carried out at every moment, everywhere, by every means, and for the benefit of everybody.

As far as the means, in particular, are concerned, these will be considerably developed and will be employed at one and the same time:

—Traditional pedagogy ("ex-cathedra" courses);

—The group method of work, in which the teacher intervenes in a less univocal way;

—Audio-visual means, television in particular;

—And, lastly, teaching machines.

If the individual quantity of what will be consumed is to increase considerably over the next 20 years, as will the number of consumers, the proportions of the various types of goods and services consumed will vary in a very different way in relation to each other.

It is reasonable to think that expenditure on food will be halved in relation to 1960, while that on hygiene and health, transport and communications, will no doubt be doubled. At the same time, the proportion of expenditure on clothing will decrease slightly, whereas housing and accommodation will, on the contrary, increase by 30 per cent, and recreation and culture by 50 per cent.

(FRENCH SOURCES)

## HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Yesterday's *Amis* carried an editorial urging the repair and maintenance of main highways linking some of the important provinces in northern Afghanistan. During the recent years, it said, Afghanistan has attained notable success in road buildings and modern highways already links some of the important areas of the country to its capital and with one another.

However, some of the remote provinces still lack reliable all weather roads which places the inhabitants of these areas at an economic and social disadvantage making a balanced development throughout the country difficult.

The editorial mentioned two highways in particular. These were the Kunduz-Faizabad road and the Mazar-Jozjan and Fariab highway. Both these roads are in bad condition and the first one mentioned is useless for about three months each year as a result of floods.

The editorial said the minister of public works had recently visited the areas through which both these roads pass and had given instructions for repairs. But, it said, in view of the importance of the areas minor repair work cannot provide a permanent solution, for the transport problem of the people living there.

The editorial urged that the construction of properly macadamised and asphalted roads in the areas should be considered.

In another editorial the same issue of the paper urged the Kabul municipality to take measures for providing drinking water to the houses built on the slopes of the Asamayee and other mountains. It is no good asking why the houses were allowed to be built without prior arrangement for roads, electricity and water.

The fact is that the houses have been built and people living in these houses are confronted with great difficulties, especially as regards drinking water. It is therefore, one of the urgent duties of the municipality to provide drinking water for these unfortunate dwellers.

Yesterday's *Isht* carried an editorial welcoming the success of the Kabul police in arresting criminals and maintaining law and order. The paper attributed the newly acquired efficiency and mobility of the police department to the newly trained young officers and to the modern communications and crime detecting equipment that it has at its disposal.

The editorial stressed the need for the people cooperation with the police. No matter how well-equipped or how efficient a police organisation is it can not do without the good will and cooperation of the general public.

One of the letters to the editor complained that views and criticism

carried in the letters to the editor of the paper are often ignored by the authorities concerned.

It expressed the hope that either the suggestions made should be fulfilled or else arguments refuting them should be presented to the paper for publication by the organisations concerned.



A Spanish newspaper says Spain should fortify the hills overlooking the British colony of Gibraltar with artillery and ground-to-ground missiles against possible British "aggression".

The right-wing evening newspaper *Alcazar* said the measure would not be a threat, but a legitimate use of peaceful "weapons of dissuasion".

If British aggression occurred, the Spanish weapons would ensure that "a few seconds later the rock would be transformed into a smoking heap of rubble, over which the Spanish flag would be raised once again and for ever", *Alcazar* said.

But it added that patience was the only advisable method of obtaining the return of Gibraltar, despite apparent British deafness to repeated United Nations resolutions recommending decolonisation of the rock.

Meanwhile Spain should "suffocate this shameful colony" and develop the surrounding Spanish regions, *Alcazar* said.

A leading Warsaw newspaper said every European who remembered the Second World War would bow his head in respect and honest sorrow over the coffin of former President Eisenhower.

His military achievements won recognition and admiration from all the allied nations of Europe and particularly in Poland, which had suffered longest and most heavily from the cruelties of the Nazi plague, the newspaper, *Zycie Warszawy*, said.

As a politician he did not gain the same fame as soldier, but it should not be forgotten that true to his presidential election campaign,

promise, he ended the Korean war. His warning on the last day of his presidency against the dangers to the U.S. of the "industrial-military complex" proved his far-sightedness, *Zycie Warszawy* added.

The newspaper said compared with former President Lyndon Johnson, whose "pride and blindness" had caused the U.S. estimable damage, General Eisenhower had been a man America could be proud of.

This assessment contrasted with an article in a Warsaw evening paper, *Express Wiezorny*, which said that Ike had actively supported President Johnson on Vietnam and had lent his weight and prestige to the escalation of the war.

Drunkness caused more than half the "accident" deaths and 40 per cent of broken marriages in USSR last year, the Soviet communist newspaper *Pravda* said.

These were among startling statistics on the effect of drunkenness on everyday Moscow life disclosed by professor Yuriy Tkachevsky in the paper.

Professor Tkachevsky, a lawyer, called for the formation of anti-alcohol societies in his article.

He said official statistics showed that 85 per cent of deaths resulting from fights were put down to drunks, while 63 per cent of all people drowned in the lakes and rivers in the Moscow region were not sober at the time.

Over 98 per cent of murders were committed by hooligans with ulterior motive and 40 per cent of broken marriages ended in divorce because one of the partners had become an alcoholic, according to the professor.

### Protein extraction

## New machine brings hope to hungry millions

A fairly simple machine, which can extract edible protein from leaves has brought new hope to millions of people in famine-threatened humid tropical territories and could help to alleviate the crippling protein deficiencies affecting more than a third of the children in the world.

From one ton of leaves the machine extracts 40 lbs. of protein, and at full operation it can satisfy one-tenth of the daily protein needs of 50,000 people.

The machine was invented in 1953, but mainly through lack of funds, it has still not been widely adopted. The cost of installing the machine is about 19,200 dollars (£8,000), with annual running costs of about 24,000 dollars (£10,000).

However, with thousands dying daily from the final stages of protein starvation, particularly in war-torn Nigeria, famine relief organisations have realised that further delay cannot be justified.

Also, recent research has revealed the equally horrifying, though less dramatic, consequences of chronic protein deprivation. There are now more than 300 million children who, for lack of sufficient protein and calories, suffer grossly retarded physical growth and development. For many of these mental development, learning and behaviour may be impaired as well.

Investigations into brain-cell for-

mation by Dr. Myron Winick, a paediatrician from Cornell University working at the University of Chile in Santiago, showed that infants nourished on a low protein diet may suffer irreversible brain damage before the age of six months. It is therefore a matter of extreme urgency to improve the diet of undernourished babies and small children.

Now, as a result of a campaign against starvation by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), leaf protein extraction machines have been installed in the Food Technological Research Institute at Mysore, South India, at Makerere University in Uganda, at Ibadan University in Nigeria, and in New Guinea.

A British voluntary relief organisation, Find Your Feet, Ltd., has played an important part in promoting the leaf protein extraction method, and is now collecting money to establish production centres in other tropical areas stricken by protein shortage and threatened with famine. Founded in 1957, Find Your Feet has worked under the aegis of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees since 1960.

The protein extraction machine is fed with leaves of crop plants such as wheat and clover. It pulps the leaves, mixes them with water, and separates the protein from the fibre.

ous material, which is fed away on a conveyor belt and can be used as animal feed. The protein extract is then filtered and dried, and emerges from the machine as a white powder.

The powder is a food complement, not a food in itself. Its faint taste of grass cuttings is completely disguised when it is mixed with food.

The chief advantages of the machine are its comparative simplicity and the fact that it can be installed in the villages where protein supplement is needed, thus ensuring that there are no problems of distribution.

Also, the leaves from which protein is to be extracted are gathered before the usual harvest time, so that more crops can be raised from the land. The annual yield in Madras, India, included more than a ton of leaves an acre.

The leaf protein has the same nutritional qualities as meat or fish, and it contains more of the essential amino-acids, the constituent units of proteins, than does the protein in the actual crop.

Experiments have shown that when disguised with curry powder or other seasoning, the leaf protein becomes a palatable dish. In Madras, school-children have been happily eating food enriched with leaf protein—containing up to 50 per cent of the protein concentrate—daily for about a year now.

(Don's feature)

### Pacific Ocean

## New free trade areas in Pacific Ocean planned

By Jack Clarke

Canada and Australia are developing economic cooperation amid talk of a free trade area for other Pacific Ocean countries.

One key sign in the swing away from traditional trade with Britain and continental European countries is the scheduled Australia trade fair in Vancouver, British Columbia in June. The fair aims at promoting an Australian sales drive in the Pacific to compensate for diminishing export opportunities in Europe.

Japan is a major force in the changing economic picture, both Canada and Australia have seen overseas trading partner. The Japanese appear to have an insatiable demand for raw materials such as coal, ore concentrates and petroleum products.

According to John Chapman Australia's trade commissioner for western Canada, the Pacific is where the action has got to be for Australia and most of the countries of the area.

The current delays which Britain faces in its attempt to get into the European Common Mar-

ket provide, in Chapman's view, a breathing spell which Pacific exporters should be using to reorient their trading patterns.

He says: "Australia—and I suggest Canada—is running into the same kind of problem—is being denied markets for foodstuffs in Europe by subsidies. If and when Britain going the Common Market and we lose our preferential trade status, Australia will be seriously affected."

"The fact is Britain's present exclusion from the market has given us a head start on our problems of finding alternative trade."

Increasing technical exchange between Australia and Canada is evidenced by the participation of a Vancouver engineering firm in the development of a port in Australia. A new South Wales state trade and investment mission recently toured British Columbia and told local businessmen that Canadian investment would be welcomed in Australia.

These developments have given renewed impetus to talk of a free trade area in the Pacific. Trade

ministers in western Canada had been cool to the idea in the past because they feared it would inhibit growth of manufacturing industry.

Some powerful voices are now speaking against this theory.

Robert Hecks, president of a giant mining and smelting complex, says: "Where as it is possible to export processed products, we must establish a position in manufacturing abroad and thus provide a market for our own raw materials."

Hendricks believes that western Canada is on the brink of an economic miracle because of post-war movement and toward freer trade and the rise of industrial Japan and other Pacific countries.

Professor H.E. English, director of the school of international affairs at Carleton university, Ottawa, says Japan's involvement with the U.S. is not likely to last much longer because it is rapidly becoming a super-power. One option which he believes Japan might want to pursue would be establishment of a free trade area.

(EUTER)

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## FIRST PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY STORE

The first private agricultural supply store was opened in Shah Shaheed last Saturday afternoon. Through an initial capital of Af. 2,000,000, it was opened by Mohammad Yusuf Saeed, the owner of the Saeed Ltd., one of the Kabul's biggest casing export houses.

Explaining the aim of the shop in a speech at the opening ceremony which was attended by officials from the Commerce and Agriculture and Irrigation Ministries, Kabul merchants and the manager of ASTCO, Saeed said, his store "is to help Afghan farmers in increasing their harvests, to acquaint them with modern agricultural methods as well as to meet the shortage of the plant insecticide in the country, though in the last few years, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has made great progress in this respect."

"I hope," said Saeed, "this store which is the first of its kind in the country will help encourage farmers to buy insecticides at cheaper prices in order to protect their crops from different plant diseases which cause great losses in the agricultural areas of the country."

Saeed, who has been in the casing business for eight years, hopes that his venture will encourage other Afghan businessmen and merchants to invest in agricultural projects and he believes that Afghanistan has a lot of rich agricultural potential but which farmers alone can't realise unless they get help from Afghan merchants who invest in agricultural projects.

At present our store is small and can't meet the shortage of insecticides throughout the country, but I hope with the help of the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry and also foreign sources that we will be able to do this someday in the future," he said.

Saeed's store imports insecticides and fungicides from the CIBA company of Switzerland through the cooperation of ASTCO, Afghan-Swiss Trading Company in Kabul.

"At present we only import these chemicals but in the future we would like CIBA to jointly invest in with us in order to produce them inside of Afghanistan," he explained.

Four branches of the Saeed store have already been opened in Kandahar, Kalat, Baghlan and Kunduz which offer the farmers insecticides and other plant protection chemicals which are sold in Kabul shop at cheaper prices than can be obtained from foreign sources.

Besides the present business, one of the other task that Saeed is going to handle in the near future is the import of small Japanese Iseki tractors.

These tractors are suitable and useful for Afghanistan. Now I have decided to import tractors in the near future. Without spare parts, one Iseki costs Af. 50,000 which is really good for Afghan farmers. With spare parts each costs Af. 100,000," he added.

## 1st class tourists increase

During the year 1968 Afghanistan was visited by 44,000 tourists. The foreign exchange earned from these tourists came to \$2,421,480.

The president of the Afghan Tourist Bureau, Abdul Wahab Tarzi, in an interview with a Bakhtar News Agency reporter in revealing this statistics said that the number of tourists coming into Afghanistan continues to grow.

He said that with the opening of new hotels, including the international hotel in Kabul, a 35 per cent increase in the number of tourists visiting Afghanistan is hoped for during 1969. The group travelling, which include first class tourists, will have a bigger role in this percentage, Tarzi said.

During last year, said Tarzi, more than 120 groups of travellers visited Afghanistan and the total number of tourists came into this country from the following countries:

Australia, 1122; Austria, 309; Canada, 533; Denmark, 353; France, 1717; Federal Republic of Germany, 2048; Italy, 292; Japan, 429; Switzerland, 637; Sweden, 224; United States, 2357; Soviet Union, 68; Britain, 4397 and more than 20,000 tourists from the various Asian and other European countries.

Tarzi said that the Afghan Tourist Bureau has established contacts with more than a thousand travel agencies in the world which encourage the tourists to include Afghanistan in their itineraries.

Tarzi also disclosed that the World Bank will help the Afghan Tourist Bureau. He mentioned the recent visit of the Bank's delegation to Afghanistan and described the talks conducted with it as useful and constructive.

The Afghan Tourist Bureau, according to Tarzi, will build a 100-room hotel in Bamiyan with the help of the World Bank which agreed to help Afghanistan develop its tourism industry.

Tarzi expressed pleasure over the fact that an overland service between Kabul and Munich under the supervision of the German Federal Railways is being established.

## Free-Exchange Rates At D'Afghanistan Bank

KABUL, April 1 Following are the exchange rates at the D'Afghanistan Bank expressed per unit in Afghani of foreign currency to-day April 1:

Af. 74.25 (per U.S. dollar) Af. 75.75  
Af. 178.950 (per pound sterling) Af. 197.40  
Af. 1856.25 (per hundred DM) Af. 1868.75  
Af. 1728.75 (per hundred Swiss franc) Af. 1740.40  
Af. 1503.03 (per hundred French franc) Af. 1513.16

## Letter to editor

Dear Sir,  
I have noted with interest the various articles and letters recently appearing in the Kabul Times with reference to the problems of industrial development in Afghanistan. I am thoroughly in agreement with the conclusion that Afghanistan is badly in need of an Industrial Development Bank.

I would like as a foreigner friendly to Afghan development to point out a further way in which an Industrial Development Bank could be helpful to Afghanistan by reference to a recent story involving the financing of a steel mill in the neighbouring country of Iran. The story to which I refer appeared on page 3 of the Kabul Times for March 18.

Behind the news is another interesting story that the Industrial and Mining Development Bank of Iran played a leading part in putting together the new Ahwaz Rolling and Pipe Mills Company and was instrumental in getting the \$3.9 million commitment from the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The IFC increasingly participates in larger industrial investments in cooperation with existing development banks and with groups such banks have helped to put together.

In accordance with this policy, the IFC has let it be known in Afghanistan that when there is a functioning industrial development bank here it will not only consider taking stock in the new bank but will also provide loans and participations to larger Afghan enterprises which will need more funds than can be provided by the Industrial Development Bank of Afghanistan (IDBA) itself.

For example, suppose that an enterprise requiring several million dollars is found to have financing requirements beyond the existing resources of the IDBA.

The IDBA could, however, still be able to play an important role.

(1) It could determine the feasibility of the project and ensure a design that is adopted to the needs.

(2) It could help mobilise Afghan and foreign investors.

(3) It could help interest the IFC and foreign private investors, and

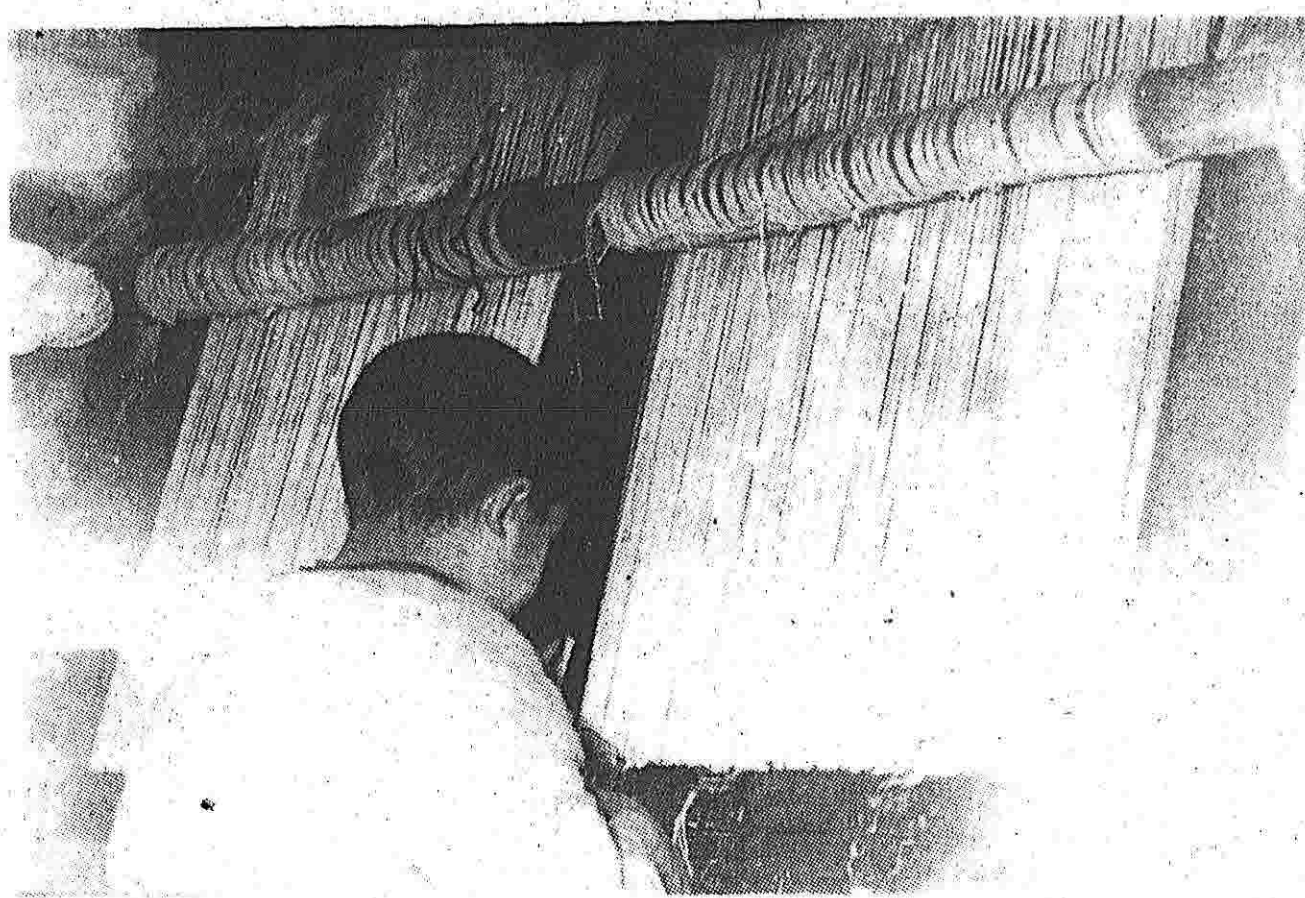
participation consistent with

(4) It could make a loan or take a participation consistent with its resources.

These would all be important contributions to industrial development in Afghanistan over and above the role that the bank would play in small and medium-sized enterprises.

Sincerely, Ruedi Vollmeier,

Manager, ASTCO Ltd., Kabul



## Statistics on Afghan students in U.S.

The recently published United States Agency for International Development's report on the Afghan participants in USAID training programmes is an interesting record of the manpower resources of the country.

According to the report which is fairly lengthy and voluminous, USAID has so far sponsored the training of 1781 Afghans in agriculture, communications, education, engineering, private enterprise, public administration, public health, and other fields.

The report gives full names, occupations and current fields of work of each participant.

The report reveals some interesting facts about the partial study of the manpower resources of Afghanistan. The highest number of participants have benefited from their study in education. Thus, according to the report, so far 667 people have been trained in education both in the United States and third countries.

In addition, 273 Afghans have been trained in engineering, 224 are studying currently, in the American University of Beirut in different fields of pursuits, 211 have been trained for the Helmand Valley Authority (a vague term which includes training from nursing to education to poultry farming), 202 in Public Administration, 167 in agriculture, 20 in private enterprise, and one in communications. The report reveals many facts.

It shows that three per cent of the 1781 Afghans who went to United States and other countries have not returned. The loss is greatest in the field of public health. Out of the eleven Afghans who were sent to the United States for further training in public health, six did not return home. But this happened about ten years ago and since then USAID has not sent any more people in this field, an official of the AID office told me.

Out of 667 students in education, only 13, out of the 211 trained for the Helmand Valley only three, and out of the 202 in public administration only six have not returned to Afghanistan. Most of the students who have not returned were in engineering. Out of the 278 sent abroad under USAID engineering programmes 60 did not return. Out of the 41 Afghans who have not returned or have returned but left the country after a short while, which is beyond the authority and agreement of USAID, three are in the field of agriculture. Interestingly enough none of the 20 trained for private enterprise have left the country.

These figures throw light on a number of factors. First, Afghanistan's loss of its students under USAID is the lowest among all the countries where USAID offers such aid. In fact even among the three per cent who have returned to the U.S. almost all have come back to Afghanistan under the agreement the participants have with the USAID, but have left later which has nothing to do with us," an official said.

Those in engineering and health fields are reluctant to come home, or when they come find no job in their field of study. Some find jobs in the United States before their course of training is over and come to Afghanistan to fulfill their legal obligation before go back to the U.S. This is why we have lost many of our students in engineering and medicine.

Interestingly enough, all those trained for private enterprise, like the field of karakul pelts, have come back. Probably this is a reflection of the wealth they have here. USAID sends about 200 Afghan students for further training abroad annually. "We think we are sending much better students to foreign countries and the United States than we ever did," the official added.

The report has some weakness. It does not specify the need of the country in the fields it has sent students for higher training, so that its role in the educating of Afghans could be judged by percentage. It shows that AID is not very interested in making survey of the new fields and the need for trained personnel in these fields in Afghanistan. For instance, according to the report, there has not been a single Afghan trained in journalism. From which source the proposal for training should come is immaterial.

Besides, AID for training Afghans in public health has been stopped for the past 10 years. Why?

It shows a half-hearted interest in some fields, like communication. Why is there only one man trained? If the need in the field is big and worthy of awarding training courses abroad, then one man is not enough. If it is not, then there should be none.

The report says nothing about the family planning field. USAID in the past year has sent a number of Afghans abroad in the field of family planning training. Nothing about this is in the report.

By A Staff Writer

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## Afghan carpets blend with modern trend

By B.M. Huffner

Following is an article published in the Financial Times of London on March 18, 1969 along with a series of other articles about Afghanistan in Financial Times Survey:

Carpets have been woven for countless generations in Afghanistan but have only been an export article of any importance since the turn of the century. No doubt they found their way along the east and west trade routes in small quantities, before that, but certainly as communications developed exports became more frequent, and by the turn of the century Afghanistan's carpets contributed to the stream of Oriental carpets which found a market in London.

London is still today the world's largest transit and re-export market for Oriental carpets.

Unfortunately, reliable statistics showing the export growth of Afghan carpets over the past 70 years are not available, but OCM (London), the world's largest contractor and distributor of Oriental carpets, and one of the oldest established companies estimates that it is today handling five times the volume it handled either before the First World War or between the two world wars.

Board of Trade statistics show that of the £10 m worth of Oriental carpets which passed through London last year, Afghan carpets claimed £1m., which was a decrease on the 1966 value of £1.7 m.

One of the most serious obstacles to trade expansion are the lengthy export formalities in Afghanistan and the long transit period to London.

Steps to simplify the export system are urgently needed; three to four days for formalities would be sufficient, which is the time normally taken in Iran, which has a much larger carpet trade.

At present, also, the only feasible transport route is by truck via the USSR railhead at Termez, and from there via a Baltic port to

London—this takes anything from three to five months. There is no physical reason why carpets or other merchandise should not be taken to sealed containers by truck to Europe—a regular Tehran-London service usually takes ten to 12 days, and it is estimated that Kabul-London would take three weeks at most. Reduced risk of damage, lower insurance and interest costs, and quick availability of goods would provide an important stimulus to trade—both ways.

Obstacles to the introduction of an overland route via Iran do not appear insurmountable. Iran has not yet signed the TIR convention allowing transit of goods over her territory, but there are rumours that she will do so soon.

The main obstacles are Afghan hauliers, who would prefer not to do battle with foreign hauliers. The Government fears that the introduction of foreign fleets would hamper the development of an efficient local fleet—but it should not be difficult to safeguard both the national and Afghan lorry owners' interests. The stimulus to trade would be marked and immediate.

The carpets of Afghanistan can be loosely divided into two types. The "Afghan" type are in fact woven mainly by women of Turkoman origin, but also by some Uzbeks and Kirghiz, and the "Baluch" type are woven by women of Baluchi and Quchi origin. Whereas in Iran, India, Pakistan, China and other countries men also weave, this is rarely the case in Afghanistan.

Both types of carpets are woven on horizontal looms pegged out on the ground and only long-staple local Afghan wool is used throughout the warp, weft and pile. Both these characteristics stem from their nomadic and pastoral history: the horizontal loom can be rolled up and taken with them and clearly they are never anywhere long enough for cotton or other crops to ripen.

There is no commercial carpet weaving of any importance further east than Faizabad in Badkhashan, and virtually no other carpet weaving in the country apart from the narrow belt along the frontier area adjoining Iran and the USSR.

## Beggars become weavers

By A.H. Waleh

The Second World War affected all the countries in the world, including the neutrals. Afghanistan suffered two great setbacks: the cancellation or postponement of certain development projects and the dearth of foodstuffs.

In point of fact, Afghanistan has not completely recovered from the second after-effect of the war. We still buy grains from time to time, mainly from the United States and the Soviet Union.

Unemployment and scarcity of food bred hundreds of destitute persons who had to be taken care of or else they would have easily perished.

This humanitarian consideration was pushed by the department of charities of the Afghan National Bank culminating in the establishment of "Marastoon" in Kabul and smaller organisations in other main towns.

In Herat the government gave away an ancient building to the local Marastoon which means the place the destitute are assisted. Private trading companies and individual merchants committed themselves to pay a certain amount of money each to the organisation annually.

Now that 26 years have elapsed from the humble beginnings of the local Marastoon, 110 persons are being housed, clothed and fed with in the spacious compound right in the middle of Herat city.

The way they collect the would-be inmates is very simple. An old-timer from Marastoon accompanied by a soldier walk up and down the streets everyday looking for beggars. As soon as a beggar is caught in the act, he is brought in even if manhandled. This makes the figure quoted above rather tentative.

At present, there are 30 old-timers who have become adept carpet weavers. They produce three kinds of "mauri" carpets: the first class costing Af. 220 per square foot, the second Af. 200 and the third Af. 180.

On the other hand, the craftsmen are paid respectively Af. 60 and 55 and 40 per square foot for their finished products.

Because most of us are not to be trusted with our own money, the management saves 20 per cent of their income in a special account in the local bank. As soon as they are able to stand on their own feet, they can draw the money and start their own businesses.

The inmates in the Marastoon have also tried their skill with carpets of Iranian designs which again fall into three classes costing Af. 180 and 150 and 130 per square foot respectively.

(Continued on page 4)

## Business review of the week

By A Staff Writer

The report on the Afghan participants in the United States Agency for International Development training programmes is interesting. The details which are available in a separate report published on this page of the Kabul Times should make the manpower resources department of the Ministry of Planning think about its own role in the preparation of a similar report on the manpower resources of the whole of Afghanistan in all walks of life.

Admittedly, there are a number of reports available in the Planning Ministry on the manpower resources of Afghanistan, which are fairly good. But the breakdown into the fields of study, countries of study, professions they are employed in at the moment, and even names of the participants should offer interesting research and analysis of the current situation in this country.

As it is, Afghanistan is in the most fortunate position, considering its size and population, to have been able to send its students for higher studies to almost all those countries with which she has diplomatic ties. We have students in almost all the

countries of Europe, in north America, Japan, the neighbouring and even in such far flung areas as Hawaii, Finland, Australia and New Zealand. The compilation of such a report will offer a good picture of where we stand at the moment, what fields of development are not covered by the training programmes offered by the friendly countries, international and private foreign agencies and institutes, and what should be done about it.

For instance, we do not have a specialist in the field of cancer, and even if we have one it is not enough. The Ministry of Public Health has not taken the simple step of importing a cancer therapy machine, which costs roughly \$30,000. The notion that there is no cancer in this country is now proved to be wrong. On the contrary, the number of cases is fast increasing.

How many specialists do we need in cancer to treat the most simple cases? What about training more in this field? These are some of the questions that suddenly come to mind when one considers the problem of lack of personnel in this field.

Such a report can also act as a good guide to the government itself. People trained in one field are not always employed in it. This has re-



## Airlines

## WEDNESDAY

## Ariana Afghan Airlines

DEPARTURE	FLIGHT TIME
Kabul-Khost	FG-111 1130
Kabul-Kandahar	FG-201 1300
ARRIVALS	
Beirut-Tehran	FG-206 1045
Kandahar-Kabul	FG-105 1100
Khost-Kabul	FG-112 1400

## AEROFLOT:

ARRIVAL	FLIGHT TIME
Moscow-Tashkent	FG-019 0925
Kabul	

## Pharmacies

## OPEN TONIGHT

Hakim Kute Sangi  
Muhsen Asri Jade Nader Pashtoon  
Najib Cinema Pamir  
Faize Beni Hesar  
Barikut Dahmazang  
Rona Malek Asghar  
Asri Jade Nader Pashtoon  
Wahidi Share Nau  
Ameri Share Nau  
Akhund Zadah Darulaman  
Shakeri sec Jade Maiwand  
Iqbal Jade Maiwand  
Asri Aspozhami Jade Maiwand  
Karte Char and Pashtoonistan  
Central Medical Depot  
Telephones: 41252 and 20528

## Important

## Telephones

Police Station —20  
Traffic Department —41700  
Airport —21283—20872  
Fire Department 13  
Telephone repair 29  
Main post office 24:41

## Weather

Skies over all the country are cloudy. Yesterday the warmest area was Farah with a high of 32 C, 89 F. The coldest area was North Salang with a low of -5C, 23 F. Yesterday South Salang had 2 mm rain, 167 cm snow and Kunduz 2 mm. Today's skies in North and South Salang is cloudy with chance of rain and snow. Today's temperature in Kabul at 10, 30 a.m. was 14 C, 57 F. Wind speed was recorded in Kabul at 10 knots.

## Yesterday's temperatures:

Kabul	18 C	4 C
Kandahar	64 F	39 F
Mazare Sharif	28 C	9 C
Herat	82 F	48 F
Kunduz	23 C	6 C
Ghazni	73 F	43 F
Fariab	30 C	8 C
Jalalabad	86 F	46 F
Shahrak	23 C	8 C
Lal	73 F	46 F
	18 C	3 C
	64 F	37 F
	27 C	14 C
	80 F	57 F
	28 C	14 C
	82 F	57 F
	1 C	2 C
	34 F	28 F
	15 C	2 C
	59 F	28 F
	16 C	-2 C
	50 F	28 F

## AT THE CINEMA

## ARIANA CINEMA:

At 2, 5, 7 and 9 p.m. American colour cinemascope film dubbed in Farsi **SPEEDWAY** with **ELVIS PRESLEY** and **NANCY SINATRA**. Sunday at 7 p.m. in English.

## PARK CINEMA:

At 2, 5, 8 and 10 p.m. American colour cinemascope film dubbed in Farsi **BLACKBEARD'S GHOST** with **PETER USTINOV**, **DEAN JONES** and **ELSA LANCHESTER**. Saturday 8 p.m. in English.



The ambassador of the Soviet Union in Kabul, Konstantin Alexandrov, presented technical equipment and books to be used by Kabul Polytechnic students yesterday to the rector of Kabul University, Dr. Abdullah Wahidi. They were accepted with thanks. The President of the Polytechnic Institute, Dr. Abdul Azim Ziaee, was also present. Photo shows Alexandrov (first from left) and Wahidi (third from left).

## Suharto launches \$3.5 B. five-year economic plan

JAKARTA, Feb. 1. (Reuters). President Suharto yesterday launched Indonesia's five-year economic plan with a plea for national unity. Speaking at the Medeka Palace, where he signed the budget for next year, the President said the aim of

the \$3,500 million five-year plan starting today was to improve the living standards of the people.

"We are entering a new phase in history", the head of state said, "gathering of the country's leaders including cabinet ministers."

"We are to carry out this plan to build a nation. Therefore the plan must be endorsed and supported by all levels of the community."

Suharto called for the creation of a new atmosphere to strengthen national unity.

"Let us remove any differences among groups, races and religions," he said.

An important factor is the setting of the five-year plan. The people must be on constant alert for those who are trying to disrupt the unity of the nation," he said.

The president said the government was making available \$25 million for the first three months of the financial year beginning today.

That should be big enough to "revolve the wheel," the president said. But to keep the wheel rolling the Indonesian people must work harder, he said adding, "The future of Indonesia depends on the Indonesians themselves."

The plan is seen by economists here as a model attempt to put the country's development on a firm basis by 1974.

It concentrates on making Indonesia self-sufficient in rice, at the same time increasing by as much as 25 per cent the amount of rice the 127 million Indonesians will have to eat in 1974.

The number two priority goes to textiles production, which the government hopes to double in the five years.

## East Germany

## wants West to recognise her

BERLIN, April 1. (AFP). East German Foreign Minister Otto Winzer yesterday demanded a pure recognition of East Germany by the West before the staging of the Pan-European security conference and this month by the Warsaw Pact countries' Budapest summit.

He told the East German state council the government had a list of five demands as pre-conditions for East German participation in an event at Pan-European conference.

These included recognition of the sovereignty and equality of rights of "all states", abolition of economic and political discrimination, participation without conditions in international life including admissions to the UN and other world bodies, the ending of discrimination against East Germans visiting NATO countries, and the "normalisation" of relations between East Germany and all European countries.

## AZIZ SUPERMARKET

Announces the arrival of

## Easter articles

All kinds of sweets are available on limited stock.

For quality food plus savings, shop at Aziz Super Market.

Share Nau

## Afghan carpets blend with modern trend

(Continued from page 3)

The designs of the Baluch are geometrical, produced mainly in rug sizes, that is, less than 3 x 5 feet, and mainly from 4 x 3 feet upwards.

Prayer designs are plentiful, and their rugs are full of character. Their relatively light construction requires the use of an underfelt. The typical ground colours are dark blue, dark red and camel. They also produce very interesting saddle bags and pillow bags and a few gillims.

The "Afghans" are usually recognisable by their large octagonal or elephant foot design. They are mainly made in both rug and carpet sizes from 4 x 3 feet up to 13 x 10 feet. They are available in a variety of qualities from inexpensive karkins to the fine Daulatabads and Maoris.

Maori is the name given to the quality of goods produced by the Turkomans.

Some of the finest weaving was carried on by the Turkoman who lived in the Oasis of Mary. Maori in their Turki dialect. These fine qualities are usually produced in the famous Bokhara pattern, although some medium quality goods are also produced in this pattern.

Prayer designs are plentiful, and saddle bags, as well as a variety of very interesting piled fabrics with which they equipped their tents for the nomadic life, are still available.

In the 1950s the trade and public in the West became aware that Afghan carpets had a great deal to offer. Their attractive price and dignified simple geometrical octagonal patterns blended perfectly with the modern trend towards simple furnished grounds, or less commonly, gold and bronze grounds, with the designs discretely brought out only by the use of dark blue, gave warmth to otherwise rather cold and severe modern interiors.

From the 1950s, year by year the demand and production increased and prices rose steadily. The market could not sustain this virtually uninterrupted rise over ten years, due to consumer indigestion and resistance. There was a reaction, and the supply and demand over the last two years has

## Optimism high on Singapore ties with Indonesia

SINGAPORE, April 1. (Reuters). Finance Minister Dr. Goh Keng Swee said Monday that the success of a recent Singapore investment mission to Indonesia marked an important breakthrough in relations between the two countries.

Dr. Goh told a press conference that there was still a certain amount of ill-will felt by Indonesians towards Singapore.

"In our relations with Indonesia we have been serving the role of the middle-man—and the middle-man is never popular."

"But I think they accepted the fact that we want to perform a more useful economic role than just buying and selling Indonesian products on behalf of Indonesia. I think we have achieved a real breakthrough," he said.

Dr. Goh, who returned from Indonesia last night, said Singapore investment amounting to \$20 million had been agreed upon in principle.

Investment projects would include two flour mills, and plants manufacturing confectionery, detergents and crumb rubber, he said.

Further investment worth 20-30 million Singapore dollars including the construction of a steel mill was under consideration, he said.

## CORRECTION

The headline of an article by Mrs. Prita K. Shalizi, published on page three of the March 30 issue of the Kabul Times, should be read "The Year's at the Spring."

been at a lower level. In the meantime, prices for other types of Oriental carpets are rising and inevitably and perhaps quite soon, attention will again be turned to Afghans.

More and more people are realising that the production of hand-made articles, particularly Oriental carpets which require such a high degree of skill and labour, will eventually be killed by "progress". Instead of being available, as they are today, to the wide public who care about their homes, they will become unfortunately only a rarity to be enjoyed by the few.

If one assumes that most people

today consider a carpet as an essential item of comfort, it follows that it pays to invest the difference in a good Oriental carpet which is at the same time of practical use and a source of pride which lends to a home a cachet of distinction. Could there really be a more desirable hand-some Afghan carpet?

It is impossible to give an accurate guide to prices, but it is fair to say that the majority of Baluch rugs will fall in the category of 20s to 50s per square foot, with Afghans from 20s to 80s per square foot according to quality, and any reputable store will be glad to give good advice.

## Beggars become weavers

(Continued from page 3)

On the 12 looms each weaver can produce 4 square feet per day. The finished products are purchased by government officials, merchants and tourists.

However, the sales are not up to the expectation of the management.

The most reasonable buy for a casual traveller is a carpet cushion which sells for Af. 350 as it is light to carry and so handy to use.

The Herat Marastoon has not yet reached the stage of producing its own yarn. Therefore, it buys one "seer", that is roughly 16 pounds of yarn for between Af. 375 and 390. The unprocessed wool is purchased for Af. 130 per seer which yields only 6 pounds of yarn.

The youngest inmate is the 12-years-old boy seen in the photograph. He was orphaned as a small kid and had nowhere to turn except to this charitable organisation. Now he is in a position to produce the best types of carpets you can dream of.

The inmates are accommodated from 10 to a room and are served the

usual breakfast, and soup with bread for lunch. They buy whatever delicacy they fancy for dinner from their own pockets. Once a week, they are given a large serving of "pilau" which they enjoy most.

Due to the fact that there exists no lunatic asylum in Herat or other provincial centres, 12 persons suffering from various mental disturbances are housed in one side of the compound.

They are of course unproductive humans who do not even know what to do with themselves, but as the wards of society they are looked after by Marastoon, though most of them look in perfect physical health.

Merchants are requested all over the country to have a look at the fine carpets these erstwhile beggars are producing and place their orders with the management in Herat.

Only in this way can the Marastoon dispose of the carpets piling up in its store room and in this way alone can those admirable craftsmen thrive economically and start on their own.

## The Kabul Times

The Afghan new year started on March 21.

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## American Women's Association

Presents

## The Red Shoes

April 17-7:30 p.m.

April 18-2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Adults: Af. 100

Children: Af. 50



## AEROFLOT SUMMER SCHEDULE

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1969 SU-019 MOSCOW-

TASHKENT-KABUL. ARRIVAL KABUL EVERY

WEDNESDAY

AT 09: A.M.

SU-020 KABUL-TASHKENT-MOSCOW DEPARTURE

KABUL EVERY THURSDAY

AT 10:15 A.M.

TIME IS LOCAL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

AEROFLOT OFFICE

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